RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.

Resolution No. 1.

Generation of 50 Cycle Power in the new Hydro-Electric Schemes.

Mr. Bhoopalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja to immediately appoint a commission of enquiry, including expert Engineers from outside the State and presided over by some very eminent Engineer, preferably of international reputation—

(i) to draw up the most economical programme for the further hydro-electric development of the State, and

(ii) to consider whether the time is ripe for changing the frequency of generation to fifty cycles in all the new hydro-electric schemes of Government and to adopt the policy of a gradual change over to the standard fifty cycles frequency for the entire system in Mysore,

and for this purpose recommends the provision of an adequate sum not exceeding fifty thousand rupees for expenses in the budget "

In doing so, he pointed out that next to the Revenue Department, the Electric Department was yielding the highest revenue to the State. During the last 38 years, as a result of the far-sighted policy of the Government, the Department had developed itself to an enormous extent benefiting both the Government and the people. It was not easy for a layman like him to make any suggestions in respect of the working of such a highly technical department. All the same, he would venture to do so. At present 50,000 H.P. was being generated at Sivasamudram and Government had taken up the Shimsha and the Gersoppa Schemes which were expected to generate 23,000 and 30,000 H P. respectively. Government would also investigate the possibilities of other similar schemes. He had suggested in the resolution the desirability of generating 50 cycle power in all the new schemes taken up by the Government and for adopting the policy of a gradual change over to the standard of 50 cycles for the entire system in Mysore. At Sivasamudram, all along, 25 cycle power was being generated. Even at Jog and Shimsha, he understood, the idea of the Government was to generate 25 cycle power. In England, power at $16\frac{2}{3}$, 25, 40, 50 and 60 cycles was being generated and on the Continent and in other countries, only the 50 cycle system was being adopted. The generation of 25 cycle power was being discouraged. In support of this statement, he read the following extract from the Electrical Engineer's Pocket Book, edited by R.E. Neale, B.SC.:—

"In 1926, the last of the Electricity Supply Acts was passed providing for a Central Board and for schemes to be submitted to that board by the Electricity Commissioners.

"The Board was authorised to borrow £ 33,500,000 for the purpose of generation. Under this Act, frequency may be standardized.

"Of the total plant installed by the principal authorised undertakers in Great Britain in 1925, 74·50 was 50 cycles, 14·5, 25 cycles, 10·5, 40 cycles and 1·5 various other frequencies. These figures exclude special Railway and Tramway stations practically all of which are 25 cycles except Lots Road and Neasden which are 33 1/3 cycles. As compared with those for 50 cycles, transformer costs for other frequencies vary inversely as the square root of the frequency. With motors there is no appreciable difference in cost, but of course, the speed range is greater at the higher frequency.

"Standardization of frequency in a given area is more essential than standardization of voltage.

"Recognition of this fact has led in recent years to the universal adoption for new systems of 50 cycles in Great Britain and most of the rest of the world with the exception of North America where 60 cycles is standardized.

"An important part of the reorganisation of power supply in Great Britain under the Electricity Supply Act, 1926, is the proposal to change over to 50 cycles all systems (except traction ones) operating at other frequencies. The chief new standard areas are the Clyde, Birmingham and South Wales (25 cycles) and the North East Coast (40 cycles). The change over on the Clyde is in progress (1928) and that in Birmingham will be undertaken immediately. A complete change over of the North East Coast system seems unlikely partly because the change from 40 cycles would be more costly and partly because the advantages are less."

From the above extract, it was evident that everywhere the 25 cycle system was giving place to the 50 cycle system. The reason for this was that the machinery for 50 cycles was 30 per cent cheaper than that for 25 cycles. Similar was the case in respect of transformers and motors also.

Continuing, he said that as Jog was in the neighbourhood of the Bombay Presidency, there might be a demand for supply of power from that station to places in that Presidency for lighting as well as for industrial purposes. It would facilitate such supply if the 50 cycle system was adopted in that station as 50 cycles was the British

Indian standard. Even the Tatas were using the 50 cycle system and as a result thereof, their working expenses were very much less than those in the State. One and three-fourths pie was the cost of generation per unit of 25 cycle power and it would be much less in the case of 50 cycles. By adopting the 50 cycle system, there was bound to be an appreciable savings in expenditure, and this amount might with advantage be invested on other schemes.

Even for purposes of lighting, power at a higher frequency was more advantageous. That was why power at 60 cycles was preferred for the lighting systems in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. The lights under the 25 cycle system flickered thereby causing strain on the eyes. It might be said that these being technical matters, might be left to be dealt with by experts. It was for that reason that he had asked for a commission of enquiry, including expert engineers from outside the State and presided over by some very eminent Engineer preferably of international reputation. If that committee recommended the adoption of the 25 cycle system, he would have nothing to say. If, on the other hand, they should recommend the 50 cycle system, Government would be well advised in acting up to such a recommendation and saving a good portion of the expenditure which they might have to incur on the 25 cycle system.

With these remarks, he commended the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK, in seconding the resolution, said that electricity was the most important industry bringing in a large revenue to the State. The Dewan was anxious that power should be supplied to every village in the State and even to places outside the State both for lighting as well as for industrial purposes. So, it had become necessary to generate more and more power. In 1901 and 1902 when power began to be generated in the State, scientific knowledge had not advanced to the extent it did subsequently. Following the practice elsewhere, machinery and plant for 25 cycle system was installed at Sivasamudram. In recent years, however, 50 cycle system was being favoured everywhere and machinery for power of that frequency was available all the world over. On the other hand, the machinery for the 25 cycle system was available only in one country, *viz.*, America. Even from the health point of view, 25 cycle power affected the eye as the lights of that frequency flickered too much. That was perhaps the reason why even so long ago as 1902, 60 cycle power was used for lighting purposes in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. He would not however suggest that the existing installation should be replaced by 50 cycle plant. The power already being generated might be converted into 50 cycles by installing frequency changers and the power schemes to be newly taken up might be designed to generate 50 cycle power.

Continuing, the speaker said that whenever large concerns were started in the western countries, they earmarked a certain percentage of their earnings for getting expert advice for economising expenditure, for suggesting the lines on which improvements should be effected, etc. There was no such provision to be found in the budget for such items of expenditure. Therefore it was that a request had been made in the resolution for a sum of Rs. 50,000 being set apart for this purpose. This amount might not work out even at half a per cent on the total outlay. Even this amount might not be fully spent. He requested the Government to accept the resolution and appoint a committee of experts as suggested therein to advise Government on the questions referred to in the resolution, as well as other technical matters pertaining to the industry.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT (Diwan Bahadur N. N. Ayyangar) said that the Government had already appointed a committee called the Hydro-Electric Scheme Committee. On this committee there were officers who had 20 to 30 years of experience in the field and who knew all the technical details. They were *Rajasevasakta Diwan Bahadur*

K. R. Seshachar, the Secretary to Government, Development Department, the Chief Electrical Engineer, *Rajasevasakta* M. G. Rangaiya, *Rajasevasakta* C. M. Cariapa, *Rajasevasakta* S. Hiriannaiya, Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyer, the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, and the Chief Engineer in Mysore. As Mr. Cariapa was away from the State, there was a proposal to nominate one or two other experts in the field of electricity in his place. This committee was, in his opinion, quite competent to deal with all questions pertaining to the Electrical industry in the State and he did not consider it necessary to consult any outsiders who knew nothing of the details of the industry in the State. Even if experts from outside the State were nominated to the committee, all the information they wanted should have to be supplied by the local officers and it would take some time before the outside experts could obtain a working knowledge of the system in the State. After all, the request made in the resolution was that instead of 25 cycle system, 50 cycle system should be adopted. The existing committee was quite competent to deal with that question and give its opinion. He did not therefore consider that another committee was necessary for this purpose only.

Continuing, **Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR** said that at the time generation of power was undertaken in the State, scientific knowledge had not advanced to the extent it had at the present day as was stated by the previous speaker. All the machinery and plant had to be obtained from the United States of America where 25 cycles was the prevailing standard. Consequently in the State also, machinery and plant generating 25 cycle power had been installed.

Referring to the suggestion made by the previous speaker that the energy at 25 cycles now being generated at Sivasamudram should be converted into 50 cycles, **Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR** said that the question was one which involved a very heavy expenditure. This would necessitate the installation of a Frequency Changer plant costing Rs. 60 lakhs, a new Receiving Station at about Rs. 30 lakhs and the consumers' machinery had also to be replaced which again would costthem about Rs. 30 lakhs. Also separate distribution circuits had to be laid out. On the whole, it would involve the Government in an additional expenditure of Rs. 2 to 2½ crores and 3 to 4 years' time to get a change over to 50 cycles. It was a problem beyond practical politics and so it was best to adhere to the existing system. Also there was no special advantage to be gained by having 50 cycle supply. The largest consumers of power in Bangalore and Mysore Cities, *viz.*, the Binny Mills, the Maharaja Mills and the Sri Krishnarajendra Mills, had not so far complained of any inconvenience for want of 50 cycle power. Another largest power consumer in the State was the Kolar Gold Mining Industry. The mining authorities were not prepared to replace their existing machinery. Above all these, the department was at present being run very economically. Even from the point of view of health, 25 cycle power was not as harmful to the eye as was pointed out by the previous speakers. For these reasons, he was of opinion that the change proposed was neither necessary nor desirable.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR said that as the system adopted all over the world as a general standard was the 50 cycle system and as power of that frequency could be generated at a cheaper cost, the desirability of adopting that system at Jog might be considered by the Government. This would facilitate the supply of power to the Bombay Presidency also where 50 cycle was the standard. More than that, as had been stated the lights of 50 cycle power were least harmful to the eye.

Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR regretted that it was not possible to accept the suggestion. Once the 50 cycle power system was adopted, that system could not be linked up with the existing 25 cycle system. There was no demand, so far as he could see, for concentrated power round about Jog. So the installation at Jog had to be linked up with the one at Sivasamudram and the supply made from them as if from one installation.

For this purpose, it was desirable that the Jog installation also should be one of 25 cycles. After all, the Bombay Government might not require more than 5,000 H. P. This could be easily supplied separately by installing a frequency changer.

Mr. A. BHIMAPPA NAIK suggested that the Jog installation might be one of 50 cycles with a frequency changer to enable its being linked up with the Sivasamudram installation.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) replied that this and other points were considered at great length by the Committee, but given up as the frequency changer itself was found to cost as much as a new station.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO also was in favour of the adoption of the 50 cycle system as it was said to be cheaper.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI explained that according to the reports before the Government the advantages of the 50 cycle system were not so great as to justify even a small increase in expenditure, not to speak of the heavy expenditure of Rs. 2½ crores estimated by the Secretary to Government, Electrical Department. For the last 38 years, the 25 cycle system was in vogue in the State and any change over to other systems involved very heavy expenditure. In connection with the generation of power at Jog, the adoption of the 50 cycle system came up for discussion prominently, but it was given up on the ground that linking up of all the stations and working them as one source of energy was found to be difficult. He had reason to believe that the agitation over the frequency question was first started by the Directors of the Davangere Cotton Mills Co., who seemed to be inspired by one of the electrical manufacturing companies that were providing the electrical equipment for that company. He was not aware that any serious inconvenience was being experienced by any concern as a result of using 25 cycle power. From this he did not want to be understood that the Government were not in favour of generating power of higher frequency. But the State had committed itself to the 25 cycle system and any change over to another system would involve very heavy expenditure which the Government could not afford to incur at the present time.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA enquired if it was a fact that only one particular company could supply machinery and plant for 25 cycle power system and whether there was a binding contract with that firm for the purchase of all the machinery and plant required by the Government of Mysore.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI replied in the negative and added that the Stores Purchase Committee had called for quotations from various electric firms in Belgium, United States of America, England, Switzerland and other countries manufacturing 25 cycle power plant. When quotations were received, they would be considered by the Committee and the tender of that firm which offered the lowest rates for the best article would be accepted.

Referring to the statement made by the First Member of Council that the Jog installation should be of 25 cycle system to enable its being linked up with the Sivasamudram Station, **Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR** enquired whether any such linking up was necessary.

In reply, **Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI** said that as it was not possible to confine one particular source of supply to a particular demand and as power supply had to be adjusted from all the stations, an inter-connection of various power stations was absolutely necessary. It was more particularly so in the case of Jog as there was no demand for concentrated power in the neighbourhood.

In winding up the debate, **Mr. Bhoopalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA** assured the Government that in moving the resolution, he had not the Davangere Mills in his mind as was mentioned by the First Member of Council, and that he had full confidence in the officers of the Electrical Department. Government had stated that they had appointed a committee of experts to advise them on technical matters. But if other experts were also available, he felt that the Government should not hesitate to take them on the Committee.

The PRESIDENT stated that there was a proposal to appoint the Professor of Electro-Technology in the Indian Institute of Science as a member of the Committee.

Mr. Bhoopalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA in conclusion said that if in the terms of reference to the Committee already in existence the additional question as to whether 50 cycle system could not be adopted in the new installations was included, he would be satisfied and would withdraw the resolution.

The PRESIDENT replied that Government would have no objection to accepting the suggestion.

On this assurance, **Mr. Bhoopalam CHANDRASEKHARAYYA** withdrew his resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Resolution No. 2.

Expansion of Primary Education.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the provision under '26. Education – 6. Primary Education, (iv) Expansion of Primary Education' in the provisional budget estimates for 1938-39 be increased to Rs 5 lakhs as the need for more schools is increasing day by day."

He said that it was unnecessary for him to expatiate on the need for this grant as almost every member who took part in the General Discussion on the Budget during the past 3 days had emphasized the importance of primary education and the urgent necessity for providing adequate funds for its expansion. When the education cess was first imposed, an assurance was given that the income from that source would be utilized mainly for expansion of primary education. Though the cess was being levied for the past 8 years, many villages had yet remained without any schools.

At this stage, **Mr. W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA** enquired of the President whether Resolution No. 6, tabled by Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao which related to the same subject, could also be discussed along with the resolution before the House.

The PRESIDENT replied that the resolution under discussion might be discussed independently of the one mentioned by the member.

Proceeding, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** said that he was afraid that if the education of children was neglected, they would become unfit when they grew up to bear the responsibilities awaiting them. So, neither financial nor other considerations should deter the Government from providing this most elementary want of the children and discharging their duty by them. He was aware that the Government were spending a large amount on education in the State, but his complaint was that as much encouragement as was necessary was not being given to primary education in the rural parts. The expenditure that was being incurred on this grade of education was quite inadequate to meet the growing demands of the day. According to the Elementary Education Act, every village should be provided with a school, but though it was nearly eight years since the Act was passed, it was a matter for regret that not even 50 per cent of the village panchayats had schools. He admitted that it would be a herculean task for the Government to provide schools in all places all at once. But they could go on increasing the number of schools every year gradually by providing larger grants, and the resolution wanted that for 1938-39, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs should be provided for this purpose. In reply to this request, he anticipated that the Government might say that they had appointed a special committee to investigate into the working of the Elementary Education Act and that the report of that committee might be awaited. But he explained that that had nothing to do with Government providing enhanced grants for the expansion of this grade of education. For these reasons, he requested the Government to accept the resolution and to increase the existing provision to Rs. 5 lakhs in the budget under discussion.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY seconded the resolution. He said that though

representations were being made during almost every session of the House for enhancing the grant for primary education, additional grants were not being provided either by the District Boards or by the Government. The enthusiasm and the eagerness exhibited by the Government at the time the education cess was first imposed began to wane to a considerable extent during subsequent years. Consequently, the rural population had lost all hopes of getting educational facilities for their children. On the other hand, people in cities and towns were enjoying full educational facilities at the cost of the villagers, without themselves contributing any tax or cess for the purpose. Therefore the people in the cities and towns must consider it a sacred duty on their part to remember their brethren in the villages and help them by voluntarily agreeing to pay something more by way of income-tax and also by the Government officials forgoing a portion of their salaries so that the money thus realized might be utilized for expansion of primary education in the rural parts.

Mr. T. THIMMARAYAPPA, in supporting the resolution, said that there were 5,783 primary schools for boys and 503 schools for girls and this worked out at one school for five villages. The percentage of literacy in the State as a whole was 8, but if the villages were taken into consideration separately, it would not even work out to 4 per cent and only 35 per cent of the boys of the school-going age attended the schools. During the decennium 1921–31, the population had increased by about 6 lakhs, but only 1½ lakhs received education over and above the number of educated in the previous decennium and the rest went without it. In Russia, the percentage of literacy was 34 in 1921 and within a period of 10 years, it rose to 90 per cent. Dr. Frank Lubeck had stated in one of his reviews that at the pace at which education was progressing in India, it would take 920 years before illiteracy could be stamped out of the land. So, it was the bounden duty of the Government to accelerate the progress of education and this would be possible only when the number of primary schools was increased. For this purpose, an enormous expenditure would be required. When the remission of the subsidy was announced recently, the members appealed that the amount remitted should be ear-marked for expansion of primary education. The same request had come up once again now before the House in the form of a Budget Resolution. He therefore prayed the Government to accept the resolution and to enhance the grant for primary education to Rs. 5 lakhs.

Patel BALE GOWDA also supported the resolution. He said that whenever representations were made for the opening of additional schools, the Government were pleading financial stringency. All the same, Government had not accepted the suggestion that education cess should be levied in municipal areas. He requested the Government to conduct an educational survey of the State, provide schools in a central place for each group of 5 or 6 villages and thus create facilities for the education of the children. Such an arrangement would save the children having to walk long distances to the school. For providing the required number of schools under this arrangement, he suggested that the savings under the subsidy might be utilized in full.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER said that there were 50 lakhs of people in the villages and it was the moral responsibility of the Government to provide adequate facilities for the education of their children. The request contained in the resolution was very legitimate and Government should give effect to it.

Replying on behalf of the Government, **the FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari)** said that while Government agreed with the principle underlying the resolution, they regretted they could not accept it in the form in which it had come up before the House. For, before doing so, they had to take into consideration so many other factors. At present, Government were spending about 20 to 22 lakhs of rupees on Primary Education (Rs. 17½ lakhs on Primary Education and an additional sum of Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs on

buildings and Inspectors, etc.) out of a total grant of Rs. 55 lakhs for Education as a whole. It was not possible for the Government all at once to provide for any further heavy expenditure on this one single item when they had so many other heavy commitments. They would, however, be prepared to spend more on primary education when funds became available. During the budget year, the grant for education had been enhanced to Rs. 58 lakhs, and this amount represented, as had been mentioned by the Dewan in his Opening Address to the Representative Assembly, 25 per cent of the tax revenue.

Mr. Malliah had stated that the Elementary Education Act had not been given effect to fully and some others had said that the cess was not being collected and spent properly. To enquire into these and to report on the working of the Elementary Education Act, the Government had appointed a special committee. The previous day one of the members complained that though the committee was appointed nearly a year back, it had not done any work. He would like to answer that member by saying that the committee was appointed in October last year and that it had held some meetings. The problems to be dealt with by the committee were not easy of solution. For instance, a suggestion had been made that the control over primary education should be taken over again by the Government. Yet another suggestion related to the grouping of the villages. There was also a suggestion about introducing vocational bias in primary education. The question as to how wastage in education could be prevented and how the languishing schools should be dealt with, had also to be considered. Besides all these, there was the Wardha Scheme of education which was being seriously considered in the country. All these aspects of the question had to be considered in great detail. The committee would naturally require some time to consider these problems and arrive at a decision. On receipt of the report of the committee, the various recommendations made therein would be examined and further action taken.

The resolution demanded the enhancement of the existing allotment for primary education to Rs. 5 lakhs in the budget of 1938-39. Government on their part had to consider how to find this amount and also whether the amount of Rs. 22 lakhs already allotted was being used properly or whether any re-adjustments were necessary with a view to obtaining better results. These questions would have to be considered in a comprehensive manner. It would not be wise for any Government to spend all the available resources on one particular item at the expense of others. So far as primary education was concerned, Government were spending much more than they could reasonably spare. However much Government were anxious to expand this grade of education, such expansion had to be limited to the extent of funds available for the purpose.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER suggested that, as the raiyats did not in any way benefit by the University education, the grant to the University might be reduced by Rs. 5 lakhs and the funds thus released utilized for expansion of primary education.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI pointed out in reply that *per contra* there was another school of thought which emphasized that University education was absolutely necessary for the advancement of the country and that no amount spent on it could be considered too much to achieve such an object. Besides that, there was another point to be kept in view. The children after passing the primary school examination, would like to go to the middle schools, then to the high schools and on to the University. It was a natural sequence of events, and all these grades of education should be provided for them. So, equal attention should be paid to the University education also. It would not therefore be part of wisdom to suggest that the grant to a particular item should be enhanced by the curtailment of grant to another. Instead, it was open to any member to ask for a special grant to any item independently of other considerations.

In conclusion, **Mr. RAJAGOPALACHARI** said that as the Government were already spending about Rs. 22 lakhs on primary education, they could not provide anything more however much they desired to do so, until at least the formulation of a definite policy in respect of the questions referred to the committee. For these reasons, he regretted that while the Government fully agreed with the request contained in the resolution, they could not accept the resolution in the form in which it had been worded.

Mr. B. P. BASAPPA SETTY regretted that even when unexpected items of revenues were secured by the Government such as remission in the subsidy, etc., they failed to provide additional grants for primary education. While expenditure under other heads was on the increase, that for primary education had remained stationary though the necessity for increasing the number of schools was being constantly pressed on the attention of the authorities. The situation in the malnad so far as this elementary need was concerned, was anything but satisfactory. The houses were few and far between and the attendance in the schools was necessarily small. Consequently, several schools there were being classed as languishing schools and were being abolished. He wondered how the children should get education under these circumstances.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI replied that all schools would not be closed down, but only those existing in name. Even they would be transferred to other places where there was demand for them.

In winding up the debate on the resolution, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** represented that while all the raiyats were paying the education cess, the residents of cities and towns alone were enjoying the benefits of education. As the Government had accepted the principle involved in the resolution, he felt that there ought to be no difficulty for them to fix a time limit, say 8 to 10 years, within which to provide the required number of schools in the rural areas. Just as the Government had formulated a five-year programme to provide drinking water wells in all parts of the State, he suggested they might have one for primary education also and provide the necessary funds year after year. Otherwise, the people would lose confidence in the sense of justice and equity on the part of the Government.

Continuing, he said that under the present system of working, even if more grants were provided, they would not be useful, because the responsibility for primary education had been shifted on to the shoulders of the district boards whose financial position was anything but satisfactory. When the Elementary Education Act was passed, a time limit of 10 years was fixed for providing schools in all villages. Eight years had already elapsed without any action being taken according to the Act. At least within the remaining two years or if necessary within a year more, attempts should be made to provide schools in all the villages, irrespective of the recommendations of the Special Committee. In conclusion, he said that as the Government had accepted the principle underlying the resolution and had also expressed their keen desire to expand primary education in the State, he would withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Resolution No. 4.

Need for Enhancing the Grant for Rural Reconstruction.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that as the necessity for rural improvement works is increasing day by day and as there is more demand for funds, a provision of Rs. 5 lakhs be made in the budget estimates for 1938-39 under '30. Grants for Public Improvements—5. Rural Reconstruction'."

At the outset, he said that the Dewan and the Members of Council had toured in the interior parts and they knew the wants of the people there. In the budget for 1938-39 only a sum of Rs. 80,000 had been provided for rural reconstruction work. There were about

12,000 village panchayats in the State and the grant worked out at Rs. 6 per panchayat. He would ask the Government to consider what improvements could be effected with this small amount. He had also brought to the notice of the Government, while speaking on the budget, the pressing need for inter-village communications. For want of these roads, both men and cattle were experiencing great difficulty, particularly in rainy seasons. The raiyats had no facility either to take their produce to the nearest markets or to get their requirements from outside places. The district boards disowned any responsibility for making or maintaining these roads on the ground that their funds were meant for laying out inter-taluk and other important roads. So village panchayats were left without funds for laying out roads.

Secondly, the manure pits in the villages were a source of great danger to the health of the villagers as the stagnant pools of water were developing into breeding centres of mosquitoes and other germs. These pits should be filled up without delay. Funds were required for this purpose as well as for improving the drainage in the villages.

Proceeding, the speaker said that one of the officers recently asked him why at all the village panchayats should ask the Government for grants for rural reconstruction work when they had heavy sums deposited with Government. His reply to that question was that though in the aggregate the amount looked so large, yet, no village panchayat individually had money enough to take up one or two items of works independently and even if any had money, they could not use it for any purpose not strictly falling within the purview of the Village Panchayat Act. There was also the grouping system under which 3 to 4 villages had been grouped together and they had absolutely no funds to take up any work. In view of these difficulties, he requested the Government to accept the resolution and provide the amount asked for in it for rural reconstruction work.

Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMI, in seconding the resolution, said that the budget allotment under this head was quite inadequate taking into consideration the number of villages that stood in need of improvement. He was also aware that any attempt at improving all the villages all at once was out of the question. Nay, the Government might find it difficult even to provide the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs asked for in the resolution. He would therefore request the Government to select about 100 to 200 villages every year and provide them with all the essential needs. He suggested that the Government might use the village panchayat funds at their disposal for this work. If necessary, they might even float a loan for this purpose as the money market was very favourable. He was of opinion that entrusting this work to revenue officers would not prove beneficial as they could not be expected to devote undivided attention to it. As the work done should have a lasting effect, it should be undertaken intensively and regularly. Work done by fits and starts would not last long. Therefore, he felt that Government would do well to appoint a separate officer to be in charge of this work. They should also formulate a suitable programme of work and see that at least within the next 10 years, all the villages in the State were improved. By doing so, they would earn the everlasting gratitude of the villagers. Otherwise, he was afraid that any piecemeal amount spent in this direction would go to waste as no substantial work could be undertaken, and discontent in the minds of the raiyats might increase.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR said that the suggestion of the previous speaker in regard to the utilization of the accumulated savings of Rs. 35 lakhs under the Village Panchayat Fund for rural improvement works in general, was not feasible, as that amount was made up of the contributions of the various village panchayats in the State. Moreover, it was opposed to the village panchayat rules. Instead of that, he suggested that the old system of weekly labour might be revived in every panchayat and all minor improvements got done by that method.

As regards the construction of roads, school buildings and drinking water wells, he suggested that whenever any panchayat volunteered to find one-half of the cost, it must be obligatory on the part of the Government to find the other half. In that way, he said that a good number of villages could be improved each year. In his opinion, that arrangement would be better than expecting the Government to provide a lumpsum grant of Rs. 5 lakhs every year, which was an impracticable thing in the existing state of the State's finances.

The next speaker, **Mr. K. VENKATASAMIAH,** in supporting the resolution, said that it was necessary for the Government to formulate a regular programme of works for undertaking large schemes like village improvement, etc. The members were not at all satisfied with the time-worn reply to the effect that Government were doing something already in the direction and would continue to do something more. The Government had admitted the fact that the raiyat was the back-bone of the State and on his prosperity depended the prosperity of the State. But the actual position of the raiyat in matters economic and education was allowed to be far from satisfactory. Besides creating facilities for their education, it was necessary to provide the villagers with some cottage industries to which they could attend during non-agricultural seasons and supplement their meagre earnings. The raiyat also stood in urgent need of relief from indebtedness. Unless all these three wants were met immediately, there could be no improvement in rural conditions. In order to achieve that object, it was essential that the activities of departments like Education, Agriculture and Industries and Commerce should be co-ordinated. But the speaker did not consider it necessary to create a new post of special officer for rural reconstruction work as suggested by one of the previous speakers. However, he stressed the need for forming a separate fund known as Rural Reconstruction Fund, in which might be included also the annual grants for drinking water wells. In the absence of a definite budget provision and a programme, he was afraid that all the discussions in the Assembly would be fruitless. In this connection, he pleaded for the revival of all the activities outlined under the old Economic Conference scheme, which was inaugurated in 1915, but which suffered a set-back subsequently. Such a department had been started last year in Hyderabad and it was reported to be doing very good work.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA felt that in the existing condition of the villages, any amount spent on rural improvement might not bring the expected return. The villages were full of party feuds which brought about unnecessary litigations and mutual recriminations. This was the state of affairs revealed to the party of workers organized under the auspices of the Mysore University for rural reconstruction work which selected for its work a village known as Kuragahalli in Seringapatam Taluk. As a result of the intensive work carried on by this band of workers, lands which had been lost by 5 raiyats in litigation were got restored to the original owners. This achievement created confidence in the villagers and they came forward with liberal contributions with which several improvement works, like sinking of a well, installing a pump, repairs to the local temple, construction of a new Rama Mandira, etc., were got executed. After doing all these, the surplus balance was deposited in the Mysore Bank in the name of the villagers. The children of that village were also made to attend the school at Krishnaraja Sagara which was the nearest to them. This illustrated clearly that if the villagers were first freed from party feuds, real progress was easy of attainment. And such progress could be achieved only by people who could undertake it as a labour of love with the requisite zeal. He therefore urged the Government to select suitable persons for the work so as to make the villagers live in amity and concord. That would be a real achievement under the rural improvement scheme than starting with the erection of gate-pillars, sign-boards and parks.

The member next pleaded for the creation of co-operative marketing

facilities in the Chamarajanagar Taluk so that the raiyats might be assured of proper prices for crops like jola which were grown there in abundance. As regards credit facilities, he was sorry to have to remark that the Bank of Mysore had come to be characterised as an aristocratic bank, as it was not serviceable to the middle classes, not to speak of poor agriculturists. He therefore prayed the Government to provide for cheap credit to the agriculturists in that taluk. He also requested that necessary protection might be afforded to the raiyats by passing a Trade Restriction Act.

Mr. B. CHAMAIYA pointed out that out of the budget allotment of Rs. 1·22 lakhs for Rural Improvement, as much as Rs. 45,000 would go towards the cost of establishments leaving only about Rs. 80,000 to be divided among 11,000 panchayats. With this meagre grant, very little rural improvement was possible. He therefore pleaded for a lumpsum allotment as prayed for in the resolution. As already emphasized by him in his budget speech, he urged for special attention being paid to the improvement of inter-village communications.

He also supported the plea put forth by the previous speaker in the matter of creating facilities for the marketing of agricultural crops on a co-operative basis. He next requested the Dewan to divert his attention from the beautification of cities to improvement of villages. Education being the foundation of all progress, he also prayed for enhanced grants for the spread of primary education in the villages.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH was of opinion that unless the Amildar and the revenue inspector evinced personal interest, no rural improvement was practicable. Even small things like holding of panchayat meetings and the filling up of manure pits had to be effected only by their initiative. He therefore prayed that necessary circular instructions might be issued to those officers in the matter.

Mr. JATHARE NAIK on the other hand held the view that it was no good shifting all the responsibility on to the shoulders of Government officers as no real progress would be possible under village improvement unless the non-officials co-operated heartily with the officers.

Mr. Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA urged for the appointment of village committees to undertake all items of improvement works in consultation with the Government departments concerned. He next brought to notice that the district fund roads and inter-village communications started under the malnad improvement scheme were going out of existence for want of proper maintenance. So, he prayed for the necessary provision for the maintenance of these roads. Referring to the grant sanctioned for drinking water wells, he emphasized the need for entrusting the work of sinking of wells in villages to local contractors who might be relied upon to turn out honest work out of their love for the village and cautioned the authorities against selecting outside contractors.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER was of opinion that if all the arrears of panchayat taxes were collected in full, it would not be difficult to find the funds required for rural improvement purposes.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) speaking on behalf of the Government, observed that from the discussions which had taken place so far, he was led to gather the impression that the House had interpreted the term "rural improvement" somewhat too widely, by comprising in it questions like the extension of the railway line from Chamarajanagar to Erode, etc. But properly speaking, rural improvement consisted of matters like village sanitation (*i.e.*, keeping the village surroundings and homes clean and in a hygienic condition), provision of drinking water wells, schools, and creation of subsidiary occupations to raiyats so that their earning power might be improved thereby. Government were having in view such items already. One of the members remarked that unless a separate department was organized for conducting these works, there would not be much progress. That such a department was quite unnecessary would be

evident from the fact that all rural reconstruction work was being done now only through the agency of the Revenue Department. That was because the officials of the Revenue Department had the greatest amount of touch with the villages. They knew the local people well. The work of the panchayats was being supervised by the officials of this department. When this was so, to introduce suddenly a new element into the village organiza ion would be not only unnecessary but also wasteful. If such a department was created as suggested by some members, he was afraid that by providing another channel of correspondence, there would be some more delay caused in the disposal of questions.

The speaker next impressed on the House the fact that there was no difference of opinion between the Government and the members of the Assembly in the matter of rural improvement. Everybody wanted that villagers should improve and prosper. If non-officials co-operated more heartily with the officials, it was quite possible to show better progress in matters of village improvement. He observed that it was a mistaken notion to think that village improvement could be effected only if there was a large grant. It was often not appreciated that money was not at all essential for effecting several improvements. For example, for removing the dirt in the surroundings of houses, it was possible for each house-owner in the village to do it himself; again for keeping the water and the roads clean, not much expenditure would be needed. There were, however, certain items which involved expenditure and Government were giving help for such items. The very fact that several village panchayats had accumulated savings showed that they were not able to fulfil the purpose for which the village panchayat funds were raised. They simply laid by the Government grant in the savings bank and sometimes they utilized it for paying their establishments. In the matter of rural improvement, there was no doubt that very much depended upon the amount of co-operation that the non-officials extended to the local officers as also upon the collection of panchayat taxes in full. In this connection, he instanced the case of the Vokkaleri Village, Kolar District, where the collections were very good. Government had also given the people of that village plenty of help in all their activities, such as, provision of drinking water wells, construction of roads, temples and a maternity home. He assured the members that Government would be prepared to extend the same amount of help in all similar cases. On the other hand, he was sorry to say that some people had set up certain villagers against co-operating with the officers, with the result that a spirit of indifference had come over them in regard to village improvement work. He also regretted to notice a tendency in some quarters to find fault with Government for everything and to non-co-operate with them. In such circumstances, it was patent that the villages could not prosper.

Continuing, **Mr. ANANTARAMAN** said that the members of the village panchayats had a notion that they would become unpopular if they enforced the collection of taxes and hence they allowed the taxes to fall into arrears. So, Government had to step in and take up that portion of the work. Even in the discharge of their responsibility in other directions, the village panchayat members had to make up much leeway. For example, they did not even attend committee meetings regularly. He hoped that things would improve in the coming years. In this connection, he advised the members interested in village improvement works to visit the Closepet Rural Health Centre and introduce in their own villages the improvements which were being made there under the guidance of Government. There was a special committee appointed to manage this unit, which was composed of the Heads of all Development Departments, with the Revenue Commissioner as Chairman. Every department of Government which had anything to do with the development of villages and village improvement works had representation on that committee. There

were 130 villages included within the unit and whatever work could be done in those villages by the Government departments was being done. It was the intention of Government to extend the scheme to other places after gaining sufficient experience in that centre. But the point was that Government could not introduce the scheme all at once in all places, but only in select villages. Its adoption in other places was a matter which should be undertaken by enlightened non-officials.

The speaker next referred to the request contained in the resolution for increasing the grant for rural improvement to Rs. 5 lakhs and explained that in the budget under discussion, there was a provision of Rs. 1·22 lakhs for the purpose. Besides that amount, Government had allotted as much as Rs. 3 lakhs for drinking water wells. The latter was, after all, the most important item in rural improvement for which a liberal grant had been made. About inter-village communications, though no large provision had been made for this specific purpose, he assured the House that necessary grants would be sanctioned in all cases where village panchayats approached the Government with specific proposals.

Lokasevaniratha Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY brought to notice that certain raiyats whose lands had been submerged under the Krishnaraja Sagara Dam were given sites as compensation in about 50 different villages spread over three taluks. None of these villages had the necessary amenities of life such as drinking water wells and roads. As these raiyats were suffering from this handicap for the past 15 years, he urged that preference should be shown to such villages in any scheme of village improvement to be undertaken in the coming year. He also pleaded for the sanction of a special grant for the benefit of these villages.

Mr. S. VENKATASWAMI GOWDA explained that the total assessment of some village panchayats in the Kolar District varied from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30, out of which the collection charges, the establishment and contingent charges of the panchayat office, cost of library books, etc., had to be met. What balance would be left for improvement works after all these expenditure was met could be easily imagined. That was the reason why the members were agitating for grants every year for village improvement. He next referred to the commendation of the Vokkaleri panchayat by the Revenue Commissioner and said that it was a fairly wealthy panchayat with natural resources such as granite-rock, gravel and red earth, and hence it was not a hard job for the villagers to contribute those materials for improvement works, but it was not all panchayats that enjoyed those resources. That was why a special grant of Rs. 5 lakhs was asked for. If, however, that was not considered practicable, he suggested, as an alternative, the abolition of house taxes in the case of poorer panchayats on the understanding that the villagers contributed to the improvement works by way of weekly labour. That would ensure a steady progress in village improvement works. As it was, the Government were insisting upon both the tax and weekly labour.

The PRESIDENT explained that there was no question of compulsion at all so far as weekly labour went. It was a work which ought to be undertaken by the villagers out of free will and a desire to improve their own villages. The payment of house taxes stood on a different footing altogether. People who owned sites were bound to pay the assessment to the local administration concerned. If they desired the house taxes to be adjusted, it was only reasonable that they must put forth additional labour.

Messrs. Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY and **BHOGI MALLIAH** pointed out that in some places that also was being done.

The PRESIDENT observed that wherever the chairmen took personal interest and influenced the villagers to contribute labour, the villages had improved very considerably.

Mr. Mummadi H. C. VEERABHADRAPPA was of opinion that so long as the chairmanship of the panchayats was bestowed on patels and shanbhogs, there would be no improvement in villages. These people were given

to bossing over the other members, drawing up the proceedings as they liked and obtaining signatures of other members. Well works were undertaken by them without estimates and got executed with the help of the panchayat overseers. He therefore thought it desirable to make the village officers ineligible for chairmanship.

Mr. S. MUNIVENKATAPPA observed that the complaints of the previous speaker led one to the conclusion that the villagers had not the capacity to manage a panchayat. Such being the case, he was surprised at some people demanding responsible government. The village panchayat system was designed as a training ground for real democracy. Without appreciating the principles of the system, the members were neglecting their duties and responsibilities. Several villages were infested with malaria and their sanitation had to be improved. Unless there was a Government officer to guide the panchayats for some time longer, the villages could not be improved.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH, in winding up the debate, remarked that the Revenue Commissioner's reply was clothed in general terms. Beyond emphasizing the need for the co-operation of non-officials with officials, he never referred to the subject-matter of the resolution, which asked for a budget provision of Rs. 5 lakhs. He, however, thanked the Revenue Commissioner for the assurance that wherever the village panchayats took the initiative for improvement works, they could count upon obtaining the Government's share of contribution irrespective of the budget provision.

The speaker next referred to village extension schemes and complained of the inordinate delay on the part of revenue officers in pushing through the acquisition proceedings. While the maximum delay was being caused by the revenue officers to matters affecting the interests of villagers, they were found to be quite prompt in dealing with matters in which the Government were directly interested.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN repudiated the charge and explained how delays became unavoidable in certain acquisition proceedings. For example, in the case of acquisitions relating to the Railway or the Public Works Department, the land to be acquired was in one alignment and hence presented no difficulty. But in the case of village extensions, land acquisitions were beset with difficulties. As a general rule, there would be at last two parties in each village. When it was a question of acquiring a private plot of land, there would be disputes as to its ownership and there would be obstructions to its acquisition. *Mahazars* would have to be drawn up; local officers must hold panchayat meetings; there would be difference of opinion among the members which should be got reconciled before getting resolutions passed. All this would necessarily entail delay. Again, before the final stage, attempts would be made to appeal first to the Revenue Commissioner, then to the Dewan and so on. Every time the records would have to be called for and a report would have to be submitted to the higher authority. In certain cases where the panchayat selected a particular land, the raiyat concerned would represent: "I own only this piece of land. There is the other raiyat who owns 10 acres. Why not acquire a plot from his land?" Often, mutual jealousies among the raiyats used to characterise the whole transaction from the beginning to the end. Hence investigations had to be set on foot. Thus delays became inevitable in most cases. The speaker assured the House that he was paying special attention to questions relating to village extensions; and if in spite of it, there was delay, it was on account of the troubles enumerated by him. If only the panchayats passed unanimous resolutions and got the support of the concerned private parties, the Revenue Department would be very glad to sanction the schemes at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH pointed out that his complaint of delay related to cases where panchayat members were unanimous in their opinion and were prepared to meet the cost of acquisition proceedings and where there were no

private disputes. In such cases, it was necessary to fix a time limit as to how long each acquisition record could be delayed at each stage by each of the officers If that was done, he hoped delays would be avoided. Secondly, it was necessary to provide for extensions in each village as there was a general demand for it. Thirdly, the officers must be made to realize that village improvement work was as important as the work of revenue collection. The higher officers should fix every year the village improvement work to be undertaken in each taluk. Fourthly, in respect of villages capable of providing the funds, Government must extend a liberal measure of aid and see that such villages were provided with good drainage as also that all manure pits were closed.

If action was taken on those lines, he was sure of much better progress in the future.

Before concluding, **Mr. MALLIAH** said that as the collection of panchayat taxes had been undertaken by the Revenue Department, there would not be much difficulty in collection work, and appealed to the Revenue Commissioner to apply the necessary driving force in respect of village improvement works also.

With these remarks, he withdrew the resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

At this stage, the Assembly rose for lunch and reassembled at 3-30 p.m.

Resolution No. 7.

Development of Hand-Spinning and Handloom Weaving.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs be made in the provisional budget estimates for 1938-39 in order to help those who are desirous of learning the method of spinning yarn from cotton for manufacturing Khaddar, and to finance such of them as may start the industry with capital."

In doing so, he pointed out that the encouragement that was now being given to the production of khaddar cloth in the State was not adequate. Owing to the Congress propaganda, the demand for khadi cloth had gone up fourfold. It was therefore desirable to take necessary measures to increase the production of khadi by raising the output of spun yarn. For this purpose, to begin with, it was necessary to train a large number of villagers to take to hand-spinning as a cottage industry. In order to train the villagers in the art of hand-spinning, competent hands had to be selected as instructors.

It would be a step in the right direction if the Government would encourage some more district boards to start khadi centres. Government should advance necessary working capital and sanction grants-in-aid to the institutions started by local bodies. For all these purposes, he prayed for a special provision of Rs. 2 lakhs to be made in the budget for 1938-39.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA in seconding the resolution, pointed out that the Revenue Commissioner himself had admitted that it was the duty of the Government to provide for some subsidiary occupations to the raiyat so as to enable him to supplement his meagre income from agriculture. According to Mahatma Gandhi, spinning of yarn by means of the charaka was the easiest cottage industry to which the raiyats could have recourse in their leisure hours. Spinning was characterised by that great personage as the symbol of independence of the country, which was the goal of political India. The Government of Mysore had recognized the advantage of the hand-spinning industry and had established khadi centres in some parts of the State. He pleaded for developing it on a much more intensive scale by establishing khadi centres in every taluk of the State. Government should also make arrangements to train the villagers in handling the charaka and grant necessary loans for the purchase of the charaka and the required quantity of cotton. He also urged that all possible encouragement should be afforded to the time-honoured handloom industry in the State.

Proceeding, the member said that many of the officers of Government were under a misapprehension about the propriety of wearing the khaddar cloth. He therefore suggested that Government should notify by means of a general circular that their officers might encourage the use of khaddar cloth, so that the consumption of that cloth might be increased. This would be a sure method of providing employment to the raiyats in the non-agricultural seasons.

For these reasons, he prayed that the Government might be pleased to sanction a special allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs referred to in the resolution.

Mr. M. MADIAH, in supporting the resolution, represented that in addition to encouraging the development of cotton cultivation in the State, Government should give further impetus to the wool spinning and weaving centres at Kolar and Chitaldrug, as these were in al anguishing state. The wool produced in the State was being exported to foreign countries where they were manufactured into fine cloth and sent back to India at fabulous prices. Formerly, the entire wool produced in the country was being used locally for weaving rugs and blankets. As this industry was fast dying in the country, he pleaded for its revival along with cotton-spinning and weaving, by sanctioning a special grant as prayed for in the resolution.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH explained that hand-spinning and handloom weaving were time-honoured cottage industries in India, which had deteriorated for historical reasons. He felt that Government would be perfectly justified in giving every possible encouragement to those industries, more especially as the raiyat was without employment for several months in the year. The Director of Agriculture had stated that there was ample scope for the cultivation of cotton in the Irwin Canal area. Hence, the Government should do all that was possible for introducing the cultivation of cotton in that area as early as possible. If the cotton could be spun into yarn and woven into cloth, the entire population of the country could be clothed in khaddar. The resolution before the House was quite in consonance with the policy of the Government which had been already encouraging the handloom industry to some extent. What was contemplated in the resolution was a means to afford further encouragement to the same industry. He therefore hoped that there would be no objection on the part of the Government to accept the resolution.

The DIRECTOR of INDUSTRIES and COMMERCE (Mr. M. S. Ramchendra Rao) explained that Government were in full sympathy with the object of the resolution. There were various methods by which Government had been already helping the development of khadi industry in the State. The Government had invested more than one lakh of rupees on khaddar depots. They were paying annually Rs. 20,000 by way of grants-in-aid to these khadi centres. In addition to the khadi centres already existing in the State, Government had quite recently started a new centre in the Kolar District for hand-spinning and weaving of wool and another for cotton at Turuvanoor in the Chitaldrug District. With a view to placing the industry on a sound basis by standardizing production and arranging for better disposal of the products, the Department of Industries and Commerce had taken over the four khadi centres which were till now under the control of the district boards. During the current official year Rs. 50,000 worth of khadi cloth was produced in all the centres put together and the actual sale amounted to Rs. 65,000 during the same period. A sum of Rs. 1,10,000 was provided as credit for spinners and weavers in various centres. As it was the recognized policy of the Government to encourage this industry, he assured the House that Government would go on increasing the number of khadi centres to the extent possible as and when trained hands were forthcoming.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY considered it a piece of good luck that the Government of Mysore had the same ideal as the people in the matter of encouraging the production of khadi. Alongside

of that, he hoped that they would also encourage cotton cultivation wherever possible in the State. There was an adage among agriculturists that though one had 8 pairs of bullocks, one cannot do without a single charaka at least. This showed the important place that hand-spinning occupied in ancient India. There was also the art of carding the yarn. There were some old women in his district who were experts in it and it would be up to the departmental demonstrators to visit those villages and see to the revival of that industry. These women might be paid a monthly subvention and asked to teach the best methods of carding to the girls in their respective villages as girls alone could do this work more efficiently than boys.

With these remarks, he supported the resolution.

Mr. N. BHOGI MALLIAH represented that there was no sort of industry to engage the agriculturist in the Heggaddevankote Taluk. As this was a malnad tract where people were all poverty stricken, he prayed for the opening of a khadi centre in the taluk, preferably in Sargur where there were already 300 handlooms working.

Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO stressed the importance of khadi industry to a predominantly agricultural country like India. Another feature of the industry was that there was no fear of incurring any loss in it. The special allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs asked for in the resolution was not at all high considering the economic advantages that could be derived by promoting the manufacture of khadi cloth. Government would be providing employment on a fairly large scale to the rural population by opening new centres. Throughout India, an intensive propaganda was being carried on to popularise the use of khadi and any quantity of cloth produced could be easily marketed within the country itself.

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO pointed out that except perhaps on establishment, there would be no loss in starting a khadi centre. All the same, Government were prepared to start new centres provided trained hands were available. People had to be trained at the Badanaval centre. Secondly, it was desirable to start the centres in places where cotton was readily available. Subject to the two conditions mentioned by him, he assured the House that new centres would be started wherever possible.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA, in further supporting the resolution, suggested the laying out of a programme for opening a certain number of centres every year. The working advances should be paid to each centre through the local village panchayat or by forming Spinners' Association in each district. It would be easy enough to procure the required number of weavers. Then the Government should also arrange for proper marketing facilities. Besides the above, there were 3 points to be considered: First, arrangements should be made for growing cotton in as many places as possible, as any soil would be suitable for growing it. The Agricultural Department should instruct the raiyats as to the best method of growing cotton, and supply them with necessary seeds. Secondly, necessary financial aid in the form of small loans should be given to villagers for purchasing charakas. Thirdly, trained persons must be deputed to visit select villages and instruct people in the art of spinning, carding, etc. If such constructive work was carried on, he said that he could visualise a time when the entire population could be clothed with khadi produced in the country and not a pie would go out of the country. As this was an opportune time, he prayed for the grant of a special provision for encouraging this industry.

The PRESIDENT observed that more than opening new khadi centres, difficulty lay in securing trained people. The department had to train the people first, and this naturally took some time. Every effort would be made to open more centres as early as possible.

The DIRECTOR of AGRICULTURE (Mr. T. G. Rama Iyer), adverting to the suggestion of certain members for increasing the cultivation of cotton in the State, explained what all facilities existed in the State for the cultivation of this commodity. There were several

varieties of cotton, some grown in black cotton soil and some others in red loamy soil. What was popularly known as Sannahatti variety was generally grown in black cotton soil; and Doddahatti and the American hybrids were grown in red soil. These latter required watering once in 20 days or 30 days; and excessive moisture was harmful. The department had conducted experiments in Mandya by growing American hybrid varieties and it was found that a larger return could be realized therefrom than from other varieties. Experiments had been carried on by planting cotton every month from May to November and it was found that July planting yielded the best return. Eight hundred pounds of seed cotton was the maximum yield so far per acre.

The speaker next referred to the annual consumption of cotton in Mysore and explained that nearly 40,000 bales (each bale weighing 400 lbs.) was being imported into the State by the various Mills. About 40 lakhs was going out of Mysore on account of cotton only. If the required quantity could be grown within the State itself, he said that the raiyats could assure themselves of Rs. 70 to Rs. 80 income per acre. The red soil cotton known as M.A. 2 variety gave the best yield. He said it would be advantageous to promote the cultivation of cotton in the localities concerned before starting new khadi centres.

Before concluding, **the DIRECTOR** assured the House that the Agricultural Department would be glad to conduct experiments in private lands if ¼ or ½ an acre was set apart for it and demonstrate to the people the best variety that could be grown in a particular soil.

Lokasevaniratha Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY expressed his gratefulness to the Government for having agreed to give all possible encouragement for the production of khadi cloth, in spite of the fact that khadi propaganda was advocated mainly by the members of the Congress party who openly played the role of the opposition in the Assembly. The Director of Agriculture was also pleased to give an assurance about affording all facilities for the cultivation of the best variety of cotton by conducting experiments in different localities. All these showed that Government had full sympathy with the constructive activities of the Congress. What the speaker objected to was the subversive propaganda undertaken by some of the members in the recent past against the established authority. He would impress on the members of the Congress party that nothing should be done to lower the reputation of Mysore in the eyes of the outside world. He also deprecated the separatist tendency displayed in the House by the Congress members in desiring to have a separate block to distinguish them from other members.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA regretted that the previous speaker could not appreciate the advantages of party system in a parliamentary assembly though it had been recognized as a sound system in all democratic countries.

Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMI congratulated the mover on having brought up the resolution before the House, which when given effect to was likely to reduce the poverty of the raiyats. In that view the production of khadi deserved to be increased by means of necessary propaganda among the people and financial aid from the Government. So far as Mysore was concerned, the manufacture of khadi cloth was taken up over 10 years ago; and if, in spite of it, its consumption had not increased to the required extent, the reasons were not far to seek. It lay in the fact that it was not of a fine texture and not quite so durable as mill-made cloth; nor was it quite so cheap. Time was when very fine quality of khadi cloth was being produced in India and exported to foreign countries. Evidently, after the advent of the mills, there was no encouragement to khadi and the indigenous system of spinning, carding and weaving had degenerated. He therefore suggested that alongside of increasing the production of khadi, the department should take all possible steps to improve the quality of the cloth by devising an improved method of spinning and carding. If that was

done, he had no doubt that more people would be prepared to go in for khadi cloth.

The speaker was sorry to hear that cotton worth Rs. 40 lakhs was being imported into the State every year. He hoped that as a result of the encouragement which the Director of Agriculture had promised to extend to the raiyats, large quantities of cotton would be grown within the State in the years to come. If, in addition to this, the quality of khadi cloth was improved and price reduced, it would be possible to save the State from the drain of one crore of rupees towards the cost of imported cotton goods. For these reasons, he supported the resolution for starting khadi centres in all the districts and advocated the production of cloth suited both to men and women, in different colours and shades. With a view to achieving this object, he pleaded for a close co-ordination of the activities of the Agricultural and the Industries Departments. In his opinion, promotion of this industry was even more important than the sericultural industry, since the one was intended for the poor while the other for the rich.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH also supported the resolution and appealed to the members to carry on propaganda in their respective constituencies for the promotion of khadi and wean the people, both men and women, from going in for power-loom cloth. He expressed his gratitude to both the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Industries and Commerce for the constructive suggestions and sympathetic views expressed by them in speaking on the resolution.

Mr. Shampur PAPANNA, speaking as one directly interested in the weaving industry, explained that in all Indian villages spinning, carding and weaving were familiar crafts from which several families were making a living from time immemorial. The output in a handloom was too small for the present day demands. By operating on a handloom, a weaver could produce only 10 yards of cloth a week. In olden days, because there was no competition, the people were satisfied with whatever cloth these weavers were able to supply. But with the advance of civilisation, the æsthetic sense of people had radically changed and no coarse cloth could be easily sold. That was why even the Government had to take steps to improve the texture of the woven cloth. He had no doubt that in ancient India, when the handloom industry was in a flourishing condition, very fine cloth was being manufactured. But what with the competition of mill-made cloth, the handloom weaving suffered a set-back and the workmanship also deteriorated and it would certainly take a long time to reach its original condition. He therefore felt that instead of suddenly increasing the number of khadi centres, the authorities would do well to concentrate on improving the quality of the hand-woven cloth. When the quality was improved, it would be time enough to think of starting more khadi centres. With this object in view, he counselled a policy of cautious advance.

Mr. G. RAJAGOPALACHAR expressed his gratitude to the Government for their sympathetic attitude to the question of promoting khadi industry in the State. He recalled the fact that the Badanaval Centre was established in Mysore during the first visit of Mahatma Gandhi to the State and explained how far that centre had helped the people in the neighbourhood by finding them employment and added that if only the number of centres had increased to 100 or 150 by now, the whole State could have been converted into a first class industrial and commercial area. He appealed to the Government to devote such interest at least hereafter in its development, as they intended to do in the case of the cultivation of cigarette tobacco.

From the trend of the speeches made on this resolution, he feared that there was some misunderstanding with the object of the resolution. It asked for a special grant of Rs. 2 lakhs in order to help those who were desirous of learning the method of spinning yarn for the manufacture of khaddar and to finance such of them as might start the industry with capital. He wanted to impress on the Government that by encouraging the raiyat to take to spinning Government

would be helping him to increase his earning power. He would then be made to stand on his own legs and would be able to pay his land revenue with ease. If every family could devote a portion of its leisure hours for spinning, the economic condition of the people was bound to improve. There was the testimony of no less a person than Mahatma Gandhi in this behalf.

The speaker next referred to the criticism of Rao Sahib M. Ramaswami that the khadi cloth kept for sale was coarse, etc., and he explained that very much depended upon how one looked at the whole question. It had to be perceived from the angle that any encouragement given to khadi would go to help the poor Indian brethren. If that was done, no notice need be taken of the type of criticisms indulged in by certain members. One other point to be borne in mind was that the khadi clothing was more economical. While not more than Rs. 8 a year need be spent by a lawyer of the speaker's standing for his clothing, one who took to foreign cloth had to invest at least three times that amount; and what more, the entire amount in the latter case went to a foreign country. He pleaded that the question might be examined in that light.

Before concluding he repeated that if the Government would undertake an intensive programme for industrialising the State with the aid of khadi industry, it was a sure way of saving the raiyat from his chronic poverty. When once that stage was reached, the country was sure to show an all-round progress.

Mr. V. VENKATASAMI CHETTY thought it his duty to convey to the Government the message of gratitude with which the Muslim sisters of Kolar had entrusted the speaker. Ninety per cent of the women who had taken to spinning and carding were from the Mussalman Community. Unlike the women of the poorer sections of the Hindus, the Muslim women were precluded by custom from moving out in quest of labour. This cottage industry of spinning was regarded by these women as a great blessing, meant exclusively for them, for the reason that they could attend to it in their homes and supplement the meagre earnings of the male members of the family.

Proceeding, he explained that such poor women were not peculiar to Kolar, but they were to be found in every district. To help all of them, it was desirable to organize a number of khadi centres in each district. He therefore strongly supported the resolution.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau), speaking on behalf of Government, observed that the House was practically unanimous in the opinion that khadi industry was extremely useful and the required facilities for developing it must be created as far as possible. While he admitted that it was good to encourage the industry, he was not one of those who believed that it was a solution of the economic problems of the State. The question of its relative importance apart, the Government were agreed that as a subsidiary occupation to the agriculturist, it was desirable to organize khadi centres in many more places. But it had to be remembered that that was not the only subsidiary occupation that could be thought of in the State with profit. He considered sericulture to be equally important from the agriculturists' point of view. In fact, sericulture had all along been of much use to the Mysore raiyat. Once upon a time, the State was producing silk worth Rs. 1½ crores a year. Even now, 25,000 acres were under mulberry cultivation. Many poor people were able to eke out a larger profit from that source than from any other crop grown in the State. So, the speaker was not prepared to subscribe to the exaggerated statements made about the importance of khadi beyond admitting that it was one of several useful cottage industries.

In the matter of opening more khadi centres, one member had observed that the ultimate expenditure to Government would not be perceptibly large and that all the amounts advanced would come back to Government. With reference to that, the Member stated that the one item of expenditure to be considered was that incurred on establishment and contingencies. It was

not difficult to provide the funds required for the working capital of any khadi centres that might be opened. The only point of difference between the Government and the House seemed to lie in the pace at which the scheme should progress. It would not be possible for the Government to order at a stroke that khadi industry should be introduced as a subsidiary occupation of the raiyat in every place ; nor would it be desirable to concentrate upon cotton spinning alone.

Referring to the question of marketing, **Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU** explained that there had been so far no difficulty about marketing the khadi cloth produced in the State. But, as rightly observed by one of the members (Mr. Shampur Papanna), it was not a bias on the part of certain individuals in favour of khadi that mattered, but the taste of the general consumer. The fineness of the woven cloth depended entirely on the quality of the yarn used in weaving it. It was also an important point that the manufactured goods must be capable of bringing a good return to the manufacturer. That was why it was necessary that the yarn must be of high enough count. To bring the hand-spun yarn to such a level would take time. Seeing that the average raiyat took a long time to get himself trained in spinning, the persons who had to impart such training and who must be really skilled in the craft, must necessarily take a longer time to master it.

Proceeding, the Member said that it would be possible for the Department of Industries to draw up a programme for training a certain number of persons every year and with their help, khadi centres could be opened in the several taluks, the actual number depending upon the number of trained men readily available, the suitability of particular areas for cotton cultivation and, of course, the funds available for the purpose. In order to find out whether the soil was suitable or not, the speaker would appeal to the agriculturist-members of the Assembly to set apart a small plot of land in each locality wherein the Agricultural Department could conduct experiments. As regards the proposal to open a cotton growing centre at Mandya, it had to be examined how far the proposed scheme would be successful. Anyhow, khadi centres could be opened only in select places.

Before concluding, **Mr. MADHAVA RAU** asked the members to remember that nowhere else in India had so much progress been achieved by Government effort in encouraging khadi as in Mysore. There were certain reasons which made it possible. In the first place, the Government made a modest beginning and made progress gradually. At best, spinning could only form a part-time work and as such, it was not likely to add substantially to the raiyat's income.

Mr. G. RAJAGOPALACHAR pointed out that under the revised arrangement, every spinner could earn 3 annas a day and that that was not a small amount considering the average income of an Indian.

Mr. MADHAVA RAU replied that it would be possible only if he worked for at least 8 hours a day and with the standard efficiency. The very term 'subsidiary occupation' connoted that only a few spare hours would be utilized for it.

To revert to his previous remarks, the present prominent position occupied by hand-spinning and handloom weaving in Mysore was due to the fact that it was developed gradully. There were cotton-growers, spinners, and weavers in Mysore in fairly large numbers. Government were agreeable to lay out a programme for opening more khadi centres as well as for training persons in spinning, carding and weaving in the Badanaval centre. He added that the services of certain old women who were reported to be experts in spinning and carding by one of the members (Mr. Vema Reddy) would also be utilized, if they could be traced. The Member hoped that, by next year, it might be possible to have a considered programme of expansion in this respect.

Referring to the question of finance, **Mr. MADHAVA RAU** explained that the Badanaval centre had a large working

advance which could be utilized for new centres also. It was mostly for the staff that additional funds would be required. On that assurance, he hoped that the resolution would be withdrawn.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO expressed his gratitude to Government for the sympathetic reply and withdrew the resolution.

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

At this stage (5-10 p.m.), the House adjourned to meet again at 8 a.m. on the following day.

SEVENTH DAY.

Friday, 17th June 1938.

The House reassembled at the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion, on Friday, 17th June 1938, at 8 of the clock, Mr. President (*Amin-ul-Mulk* Sir Mirza M. Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Dewan) in the Chair.

Before the commencement of the proceedings, **Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA** brought to the notice of the President that though the Assembly had sat for 7 days already, not even one general resolution had been taken up for discussion. As, under the rules, one day had to be set apart for this item of business, he requested that an opportunity should be given to the members for discussing at least one general resolution.

The PRESIDENT replied in the affirmative.

Mr. G. MALLANNA next referred to the impending retirement from service of *Sastravaidyapravina* S. Subba Rao, Senior Surgeon, and bore testimony to the valuable services rendered by this officer to the State for over 30 years to the entire satisfaction of the people. On behalf of the Assembly, he prayed to God Almighty to bless Dr. Subba Rao with long life, health and happiness.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO, who spoke next, represented that certain local newspapers were found to publish distorted versions of what took place in the Assembly. He illustrated his complaint by pointing out that in one of the papers, the speaker was reported to have expressed a wish to see the Silver Jubilee of the Dewan's accession to office being celebrated. This was a canard. He explained that there were occasions when the speaker had extolled the benevolent acts of the Dewan (Sir Mirza M Ismail) and there were also occasions when he himself had criticised certain actions of the same Dewan. Such being the case, it would be unfair for any responsible newspaper to put into the mouth of a speaker sentiments which he had never uttered. Seeing that news, specially if it was slightly sensational, was likely to spread throughout the country, the newspapers had a grave responsibility in giving publicity to such news in their columns. Again, there were instances in which the newspapers had either suppressed or taken only scant notice of a certain set of speakers in the Assembly. *Per contra*, the utterances of certain others, however unimportant, were being published *in extenso*. This showed that the newspapers were taking sides which, in the speaker's opinion, was not good journalism. In this view, he expressed a hope that in future at least the newspapers complained against would be thoroughly impartial and accurate in purveying news to the public and would strive to promote the amity between the Government and the people.

REPRESENTATIONS.

No. 105.—Measures for putting a stop to corruption in Government Service.